

Message Text

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46/43

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

SAM-01 DRC-01 /083 W

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R 011435Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1813

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0061

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA 2. SINGING VICE SIGNING)

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MILI, GR

SUBJECT: INCIDENT INVOLVING U.S. NAVY PERSONNEL

1. ATHENS NEWS TODAY CARRIES ITEM IN "GREEK ROUNDUP" COLUMN REPORTING BAR FIGHT HERE EARLY MORNING JAN 30 BETWEEN TWO SAILORS FROM USS F.D. ROOSEVELT, IN WHICH 60,000 DRACHS (DOLLARS 2,000) DAMAGES INCURRED. REPORT STATES THAT FIGHT ERUPTED AS RESULT RACIAL SLUR AND THAT PARTICIPANTS UNDER INFLUENCE ALCOHOL. NOTES SAILORS ARRESTED BY SHORE PATROL AND PROMISED PAY FOR DAMAGES.

2. COMMENT: INCIDENT ITSELF MINOR AND AMONG FEW DURING CURRENT VISIT ROOSEVELT. HOWEVER, BAR OWNER DETECTED WREAKING ADDITIONAL DAMAGE ON PREMISES AFTER DEPARTURE SAILORS AND SHORE PATROL PARTY, AND SUBSEQUENTLY HAD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN OF BAR INTERIOR. AS OPPOSED NAVY DAMAGE ASSESSMENT OFFICER' S ESTIMATE OF M MAXIMUM DOLLARS 500, OWNER POSED MOUNTING CLAIMS WHICH EVENTUALLY EXCEEDED DOLLARS 3,000 AND THREATENED PUBLICATION PICTURES IN PRESS IF NAVY REFUSED PAYMENT. LOCAL EDITORS REACHED THROUGH UNCLASSIFIED

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USIS REFUSED TO PUBLISH PHOTOGRAPHS, AND AT LEAST

ONE DENOUNCED BAR OWNER' S EFFORTS AS BLACKMAIL. OWNER
SUBSEQUENTLY AGREED ACCEPT DOLLARS 500 PAYMENT IN FULL
FOR DAMAGES, WHICH SIGNED AT NOON TODAY AT SP HEADQUARTERS,
WITH OWNER SINGING U.S. PRAISES FOR PROMPT SETTLEMENT ITS
OBLIGATIONS, ACCORDING CONGEN INTERPRETER PRESENT.

3. I PAID BRIEF CALL IN NOMARCH EARLIER TODAY
TO EXPLAIN BACKGROUND AND PRESENT SITUATION. HE FULLY
SYMPATHETIC AND OFFERED SERVICES HIS OFFICE TO
FORESTALL ADVERSE AND FALSE PUBLICITY BUT, AS
STATED ABOVE, SITUATION THEN EVIDENTLY IN HAND AND
MOVING TOWARD SOLUTION.
BRENNAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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